GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1229
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
DIABETES
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government regarding the number of diabetic patients in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof between the age group of below 20 and above 20 to 40 including the number of patients born with low birth weight (less than 2.25 kg at the time of birth) as a result of diabetes ;

(c) the details regarding incidence of diabetes in male and female in the above age group ,age-group-wise; and

(d) the steps taken /proposed to be taken by the Government to control diabetes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): As per the information available, several studies have been conducted in the country on the prevalence of diabetes. Studies performed in the early 1980`s suggested an urban prevalence of about 3-4%. This has increased to the current prevalence of about 12% of all urban adults. Prevalence in rural areas is significantly less - approximately 3%. In addition, studies also suggest that the prevalence of impaired glucose tolerance is between 15-25% in urban India. The most recent nation-wide study is the National Urban Diabetes Survey (NUDS), which was conducted by the Diabetes Epidemiology Study Group in India. The last study reveals an overall urban prevalence of diabetes to be 12.1% and that of impaired glucose tolerance (a state intermediate between normals and diabetes, with high likelihood of progressing to diabetes) to be 14%. The age-wise prevalence of diabetes in the NUDS was as under:

20-29 years	:	2.4%
30-39 years	:	7%
40-49 years	:	16.5%
50-59 years	:	26.3%
60-69 years	:	29.1%
69 years	:	25.9%

There was marginally higher prevalence of diabetes in men compared with women, while the prevalence of IGT was similar in these two sexes across all age groups. There are no details in this study of the offspring of diabetic patients. However, the usual result of an uncontrolled diabetic pregnancy is large babies and complications related to labour and delivery.

According to the revised estimate of WHO, there are 32 million diabetics in India and it has been projected that India would have the largest number of diabetics (80 million) in the world by 2030.

(d) Diabetes treatment is done at all levels in the rural health care delivery system and urban health care institutions. Since diabetes is a life style related disease, it is very important to adopt preventive life style intervention for control of diabetes among children and adults in the country. These interventions are emphasized through information, education & communication activities of the Govt. including through Central Health Education Bureau.